



Montana Department of Transportation
Biological Assessment - Threatened & Endangered Species
and General Biological Resources Report

Initial: ☐

Final: ☒

Project Biologist: Larry Sickerson

Date: 5/24/13

Project Name: Bearmouth Rest Area

Project Number: IM 90-3(109)143

Control #: 4449 002

Watershed Number: 2

What: Sighting & design of a wastewater treatment facility for the Bearmouth Rest Area on I-90, in Granite County

Where (Legal Description): Twp. 11 N., Rge. 14 W., Sects.: 14 & 15

Critical Resources: The Clark Fork River, Antelope Creek, Wood Creek, and their associated wetlands and riparian areas.

SPA-124 Authorization Required: Yes ☐ No ☒

Potential restrictions based upon the most recent project description or project design: Bald & Golden Eagle protection restrictions possible around nest sites. There should be no work in or near the Clark Fork River.

Determination of Effect:

This project, as proposed on this date, is **“Not Likely to Adversely Affect”** a Threatened or Endangered Species, or a Proposed Candidate Species. ☒

This project, as proposed on this date, will have **“No Effect”** on the general biological resources in the vicinity of this project. ☒

Prepared By

Approved By

Attachment

cc: Pre-Construction
Mitigation Specialist

District
File

Bridge

**Biological Assessment - Threatened & Endangered Species
and Proposed Candidate Species that may occur in the project area**

Threatened and Endangered Species	Occurring in Project Area (Y or N)	May Affect (Y or N)
Mammals		
Grizzly Bear (T)	N	N
Canada lynx (T) (CH)	Y	N
Black-Footed Ferret (E) (XN)	N	N
Birds		
Least Tern (E)	N	N
Piping Plover (T) (CH)	N	N
Whooping Crane (E)	N	N
Fish		
Bull Trout (T) (CH)	Y	N
Pallid Sturgeon (E)	N	N
White Sturgeon (E)	N	N
Plants		
Water Howellia (T)	N	N
Spalding's catchfly (T)	N	N
Ute Ladies' Tresses (T)	N	N
Candidate Species	(Y or N)	(Y or N)
Wolverine (C)	Y	N
Greater sage grouse (C)	N	N
Yellow-billed cuckoo (C)	N	N
Sprague's Pipit (C)	N	N
Arctic grayling (C)	N	N
Meltwater Lednian Stonefly (C)	N	N
Whitebark Pine (C)	N	N
Key: E = Endangered, T = Threatened, XN = Experimental Population, C = Candidate, CH = Critical Habitat		

**Sensitive Species, Wetlands, Rivers/Streams, General Wildlife,
Fisheries, and Noxious Weed Reports**

MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

MNHP - Contacted	Y or N	Date Review Completed or Received
	Y	February 24, 2012

Sensitive Specie(s) in Project Area Identified by the MNHP	May Affect (Y or N)
Hoary Bat – S-3	N
Fisher – S-3	N
Westslope Cutthroat Trout – S2	N
Keeled Bladderpod – S-1	N

WETLANDS

Wetlands *described under notes below.	Occurring in project area	May affect (Y or N)	Acres affected by this project	Estimated (E) or Delineated (D)
Class I	Y	Y	unknown	E
Class II	Y	Y	unknown	E
Class III	Y	Y	unknown	E
Class IV	Y	Y	unknown	E
Total effect of project on wetlands				

RIVERS AND STREAMS – Baseline Data

Name (if named)	Clark Fork River	Antelope Creek	Wood Creek
Location – T., R., & S Lat & Long, or Sta.	Twp. 11 N., Rge. 14 W., Sects.: 14 & 15	Twp. 11 N., Rge. 14 W., Sects.: 14 & 15	Twp. 11 N., Rge. 14 W., Sects.: 14 & 15
Stream Type	> 2nd order Perennial	> 2nd order Perennial	Intermittent
Stream Order	> 3rd order	3rd order	2nd order
Stream Status	Primary	Tertiary	Tertiary
Existing Condition	Fully Functional	Impaired	Impaired
Duration of Impact	Temp (<12-months)	Temp (<12-months)	Temp (<12-months)
Dominant Impact	Shade Clear	Shade Clear	Shade Clear

GENERAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES

General Wildlife found in project area	Occurring in project area (Y or N)	May affect (Y or N)
Mule Deer	Y	N
Elk	Y	N
White-tailed Deer	Y	N
Moose	Y	N
Black Bear	Y	N
Mountain Lion	Y	N
Coyote	Y	N
Beaver	Y	N
Otter	Y	N
Numerous Waterfowl Species	Y	N
Numerous Neotropical Migrants	Y	N
Numerous Reptiles and Amphibians	Y	N

FISHERIES RESOURCES

NRIS Data Reviewed or Received	Y or N	Date Review Completed or Received
	Y	February 24, 2012

MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Biologist Contacted (name & office)	Y or N	Date contact was made or information received
Brad Liermann	Y	February 24, 2012

Fish Species found in project area	Occurring in project area (Y or N)	May affect (Y or N)
Westslope Cutthroat Trout	Y	Unknown
Bull Trout	Y	N
Brown Trout	Y	N
Rainbow Trout	Y	N
Largescale Sucker	Y	N
Longnose Dace	Y	N
Mountain Whitefish	Y	N
Slimy Sculpin	Y	N

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious Weeds Identified in the project Area	* Degree of Infestation
Leafy Spurge	Patchy Throughout
Spotted Knapweed	Uniform
Dalmatian Toadflax	Unknown
Sulphur Cinquefoil	Unknown
* Note - Definitions for "Degree of Infestation" - Infrequent, Patchy Throughout, Uniform	

Narrative:

This BRR identifies the threatened and endangered species, Montana species of special concern, critical habitats, and the general wildlife, fisheries, and plant species that are likely to be found in the immediate vicinity of this project. A list of the streams that could be effected have also been listed in the body of this report, along with an assessment of the wetland types in the vicinity of the project.